

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A control system for selecting from and controlling a plurality of
2 devices in an operating room, the control system comprising:
3 a master controller , the master controller comprising:
4 a) means for receiving selection commands from a user wherein each
5 selection command is associated with a device in electrical
6 communication with the master controller;
7 b) means for receiving control commands from a user;
8 c) means for converting selection commands and control commands into
9 corresponding selection signals and control signals;
10 d) means for routing control signals to a device specified by a selection
11 command received by the means for receiving selection commands, the
12 means for routing control signals additionally comprising means for
13 receiving selection signals.

- 1 2. The control system of Claim 1 further including at least one slave
2 controller in electrical communication with the master controller.

- 1 3. The control system of claim 1 wherein the master further comprises:
2 a) a microphone configured to receive voice commands;
3 b) an A/D converter configured to convert voice commands into digital
4 representations thereof;
5 c) a feature extractor electrically connected to and in communication with
6 the A/D converter;
7 d) a decoder in electrical communication with the feature extractor, the
8 decoder configured to generate information packages indicative of
9 control commands received at the feature extractor;
10 e) a memory in electrical communication with the decoder wherein the
11 memory contains user models indicative of specific words that are used
12 to control the system;
13 f) a central processor comprising:
14 1) means for routing information generated by the decoder to a
15 specifically addressed device;

16 2) a memory containing addresses for each medical device in
17 electrical communication with the master controller.

1 4. The system of claim 3 wherein the master controller includes a
2 PCMCIA card interface.

1 5. The system of Claim 4 wherein user models are contained on a
2 PCMCIA card that may be inserted into the PCMCIA card interface.

1 6. The system of Claim 2 wherein the slave controller comprises means
2 for modeling the sequence of valid commands.

1 7. The system of Claim 6 further including a plurality of adapters
2 corresponding to the number of devices in electrical communication with the master
3 controller, wherein each adapter has an associated address and means for converting control
4 signals into signals recognized by each specific device.

1 8. The system of Claim 1 wherein the plurality of devices comprises
2 medical devices.

1 9. The system of Claim 3 wherein the master controller comprises
2 removable storage media.